

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 SCCT-01 SY-05 NSC-05

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DRAFTED BY AF/C:WLCUTLER:OSM

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S/S - MR. SPRINGSTEEN

AF/E:MR. BARRETT

S/CCT:MR. FEAREY

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 132337

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CASC (HUNTER, SMITH)

SUBJECT: KIDNAPPED AMERICANS: MESSAGE TO GOZ

KIDNAPPED AMERICANS: MESSAGE TO GOZ

REF: KINSHASA 4767

1. RE GOZ'S REQUEST FOR ASSURANCES REPORTED REFTEL,
DEPARTMENT PREFERS TO RESPOND BY DIPLOMATIC NOTE.
REQUEST YOU THEREFORE CONVEY FOLLOWING TO GOZ ASAP:

2. QUOTE THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
PRESENTS ITS COMPLIMENTS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN
AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND HAS THE HONOR
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TO REFER TO THE AMERICAN STUDENTS KIDNAPPED ON MAY 19

AND NOW BELIEVED DETAINED SOMEWHERE IN EASTERN ZAIRE.
THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT IS PLEASED TO HAVE THE
ASSURANCES, CONVEYED BY THE COMMISSIONER OF STATE FOR
FOREIGN AFFAIRS TO THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR ON JUNE 4,
THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF ZAIRE WILL CONTINUE TO COOPERATE
FULLY IN EFFORTS TO FACILITATE THE SAFE RETURN OF THE
STUDENTS. THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT ASSURES
THE GOVERNMENT OF ZAIRE THAT IT WILL NOT PAY RANSOM,
IN EITHER MONEY OR ARMS, TO SECURE THE STUDENTS'
RELEASE.

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES BELIEVES IT IS
IMPORTANT, AND HOPES THE GOVERNMENT OF ZAIRE WILL
AGREE, THAT THE ABOVE ASSURANCE BE HELD IN CONFIDENCE
IN ORDER TO AVOID POSSIBLE RETALIATORY ACTION AGAINST
THE HOSTAGES. UNQUOTE

3. IN CONVEYING NOTE TO FONOFF, YOU SHOULD MAKE
CLEAR IMPORTANCE WE PLACE ON MAINTAINING CONFIDENTIALITY
OF THIS MESSAGE.

4. IT IS OUR ASSUMPTION THAT GOZ'S ASSURANCES OF "FULL
COOPERATION" EXTEND TO POINT WHERE VAGNI CAN BE
CONFIDENT THAT A) HIS ACTIVITIES AND THOSE OF HIS
ASSOCIATES WILL IN NO WAY BE IMPEDED BY GOVERNMENT
SECURITY FORCES AND B) HE MAY PASS WORD TO KIDNAPPERS
THAT GOZ WILL NOT OBSTRUCT ANY EFFORTS THEY MAY MAKE
TO RESPOND TO HIS APPEAL FOR CONTACT. ON THIS POINT,
KINSHASA 4731 IS ENCOURAGING. HOWEVER, IF YOU FEEL
THIS ASSUMPTION CAN NOT RPT NOT BE REASONABLY MADE,
REQUEST YOU ELICIT WHATEVER ADDITIONAL GOZ ACTIONS
(E.G. INSTRUCTIONS TO SECURITY OFFICIALS IN THE AREA)
THAT MAY BE NECESSARY TO MEET REQUIREMENTS FOR VAGNI
MISSION. AS SOON AS YOU ARE SATISFIED GOZ FULLY ON
BOARD, PLEASE INFORM ALL ADDRESSEES SO THAT VAGNI
CAN START TRIP. KISSINGER

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